

**Testimony before the Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement
February 28, 2019**

SB 273: An Act Concerning Debt-Free College

Angelique Lewis

Good afternoon Senator Haskell, Representative Haddad, and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.

My name is Angelique Lewis and I am a registered voter in Torrington.

I am here to testify in support of SB 273, An Act Concerning Debt-Free College.

To whom it may concern. I am speaking on behalf of us who have mental health issues but still want to be educated by school by higher learning. I am a certified mig welder and also a state CNA. With an educational grant provided by Prime Time House I went through an eighteen month course at Northwestern Connecticut Community College and I became a certified PCA. I was planning to start school to become a register nurse. I then got into a five car collision and the voices in my head become more frequent. Where I come from I might as well live in a don't ask don't tell era but I'm going to change the history. I am going to finish college, showing I can live with mental issues and still be educated. This means staying consistent with my mental health care takers, and my physical health doctors. I am a proud member of Prime Time House in Torrington.

Angelique Lewis